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Viewing cable 09OTTAWA869, Canada taking "harsher line" on DPRK's UPR

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Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cable's unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. **#09OTTAWA869**.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
09OTTAWA869	2009-12-03 22:25	2011-08-30 01:44	CONFIDENTIAL/NOFORN	Embassy Ottawa

Appears in these articles:

<http://aptn.ca/pages/news/2011/05/31/u-s-asked-canada-for-financial-help-on-north-korea-deal-u-s-diplomatic-cables/>

VZCZCXR07016
RR RUEHSL
DE RUEHOT #0869 3372225
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
R 032225Z DEC 09
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 0129
INFO ALL CANADIAN POSTS COLLECTIVE
HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL COLLECTIVE
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0005
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 0004
RUEHTC/AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE 0003

C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 000869

NOFORN
SIPDIS
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PASS TO AMCONSUL AMSTERDAM
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PASS TO AMCONSUL QUEBEC

E.O. 12958: DECL: 2019/12/03
TAGS: [PHUM](#) [PREL](#) [AORC](#) [SOCI](#) [UN](#) [KN](#) [CA](#)
SUBJECT: Canada taking "harsher line" on DPRK's UPR
REF: STATE 123209

CLASSIFIED BY: Scott Bellard, Minister Counselor for Political Affairs, State, POL; REASON: 1.4(B), (D)

¶1. (C/NF) Canada agrees with U.S. views and suggested questions and recommendations for the UN Human Rights Council's (HRC) Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of the DPRK (reftel), according to Cyndy Nelson, Policy Advisor for Human Rights, and Daniel Ulmer, Policy Officer for Human Rights, in the Human Rights, Gender Equality, Health, and Population Division of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT). Nelson added that Canada plans to intervene at the December 7 session with its own recommendations, which take an even "harsher line" than those of the U.S. Ulmer commented that Canada is not expecting an "open or frank" response from the DPRK, but DFAIT believes that this is "a rare and important opportunity" to engage the DPRK on human rights issues. Nelson confirmed that Canada intends to intervene on all UPR sessions, and requested information on U.S. plans for other UPRs. Ulmer noted that DFAIT selects its recommendations using "SMART" criteria -- Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Timely, as well as those that can be fully realized within the four-year timeline of UPR.

¶2. (C/NF) Ulmer outlined the six areas in which Canada will offer recommendations at the HRC UPR of the DPRK:

¶1. The cessation of public executions and the use of torture and the need for the DPRK to ratify international conventions on torture;

¶2. The implementation of human rights obligations - specifically on forced labor and arbitrary detentions - to which the DPRK is already a signatory;

¶3. Greater freedom of association, freedom of movement, and freedom of religion within the DPRK;

¶4. Ensure access to food and drinking water for all North Koreans;

¶5. Increased access by humanitarian agencies - specifically the UN World Food Program; and,

¶6. Greater DPRK cooperation with the HRC and the DPRK special rapporteur.

¶3. (C/NF) Ulmer emphasized that, although Canada intends to "call a spade a spade" with "credible and meaningful" recommendations to the DPRK, DFAIT believes that a judicious selection of recommendations that are "implementable with the possibility of acceptance" has the best chance of success, given the typically defensive posture of the DPRK on human rights issues.

JACOBSON